Samahan

Philippine Dance Company

1998 CALENDAR

SINGKIL

A salute to the
Philippine Independence Centennial

SALIP

Tribes in the mountain provinces of Luzon preserve their identity, customs and lore. Their dances celebrate important events in life such as birth, wedding, victory in war and thanksgiving. A Kalinga wedding dance is an important celebration. The bridegroom offers the bride the protection and comfort of his blanket. The bride's friends are ready to help prepare the bride by offering "bangas" (earthen pots) filled with fresh water from the mountain spring.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	New Year's Day 1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3				

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

January 1998

TINIKLING

The best known of Philippine folk dances and a great favorite of young dancers and audiences, tinikling derives its name from the "tikling" bird which leaps and hops around the fields looking for grains of rice. The dancers imitate the movements of the bird.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	Ground Hog Day 2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	Lincoln's Birthday 12	13	Valentine's Day 14
15	Presidents' Day 16	17	18	19	20	21
Washington's Birthday People's Power Anniversary (Philippines) 22	23	24	Ash Wednesday 25	26	27	28
1	2	3	4	5		

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 1998

PAYPAY

In this dance, a number of ladies in colorful "Maria Clara" gowns carry scented fans or "paypay" and flirt with young men with rattan canes and straw hats. The dance is a "Filipinized" version of a combination of European and Spanish folk dance steps.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Spring begins	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2		

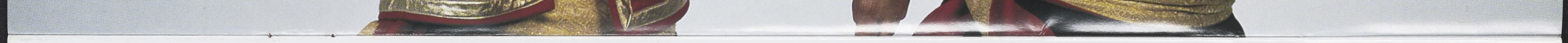
FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

March 1998



KADAL BLELAH

A bird dance of the T'boli people of South Cotabato in the island of Mindanao. Women dancers portray the Blelah, a mythical bird which according to tradition consolidates in itself the feather coloration of all known birds. Hunters capture one of the birds.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	April Fool's Day 1	2	3	4
Palm Sunday Daylight Savings Time begins 5	6	7	8	Araw Ng Kagitingan (Phils.) Maundy Thursday 9	Good Friday 10	Passover 11
Easter Sunday 12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	Earth Day Secretary's Day 22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 1998

SANTACRUZAN

SANTACRUZAN

According to Philippine tradition, the Santacruzan celebrates the finding of the true cross by the Empress Helena, mother of the first Christian Emperor Constantine. The popular celebration in the month of May involves many beautiful young girls in town as "sagalas". The Reyna Elena is the most important of the various queens of the Santacruzan.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	World Labor Day 1	2
3	4	Cinco de Mayo 5	6	7	8	9
Mother's Day 10	11	12	13	14	15	Armed Forces Day (Philippines) 16
17	Victoria Day (Canada) 18	19	20	21	22	23
24	Memorial Day 25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2				

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 1998

SUBLI

The dance originated in the province of Batangas, Luzon. Originally, the dance was performed only during the month of May in honor of the feast of the Holy Cross. The name of the dance comes from the words "subsub" meaning stooped and "bali" means broken. The male dancers have a bent-forward position as if carrying a heavy cross throughout the dance.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	Philippine Independence Day 12	13
Flag Day 14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Father's Day Summer begins 21	22	23	St-Jean (Quebec) 24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

PASEO DE ILOILO

Also known as Andaluz, the dance is of Spanish origin. The "Maria Clara" gown worn by the female dancer shows the influence of Spain. It is a courtship and flirtation dance usually performed by one lady and three young men.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	Canada Day 1	2	3	Independence Day R.P.-U.S. Friendship Day 4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

July 1998

KULINTANG MUSIC ENSEMBLE

KULINTANG MUSIC ENSEMBLE

Kulintang is the unique gong and drum music of the Muslim people of the Island of Mindanao. It is an ancient tradition that predates the major influences of Islam, Christianity and the West. The ensemble is composed of kulintang, dabakan, gandingan, babandir, and large gongs called agongs. The Samahan Kulintang Music Ensemble was trained by Danongan Sibay Kalanduyan, master artist/guru of Kulintang.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	Manuel L. Quezon Day (Philippines) 19	20	21	22
23	24	25	Cry of Balintawak (Philippines) 26	27	28	29
30	31	1				

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

August 1998

BONTOC SKIRT

BONTOC SKIRT

The Bontocs, one of the principal Highlander groups in the mountain provinces retain many of their customs and traditions. The old ways of weaving clothing material is actively practiced in Bontoc. The unique pattern of the Bontoc skirt makes it a favorite wear for women and is used by Samahan as a prop for a dance based in the region's folklore.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Rosh Hashanah	22	23 Fall begins	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Yom Kippur	1	2	3

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 1998

PINASUAN

BINASUAN

The practice of offering wine by gracious hosts at social gatherings is the theme of the dance. The dancers perform intricate balancing movements with glasses of wine on top of their heads and on their hands. At social gatherings, the dance becomes a contest among the dancers as to who can do the most daring and skillful balancing movements.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Columbus Day Thanksgiving (Canada)	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 United Nations Day
25 Daylight Savings Time ends	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween
1	2	3				

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 1998

JOTA PANDERETAS

Filipino bamboo castanets fashioned after Spanish castanets played by the men and panderetas played by the women reflect the almost four centuries of Spanish influence in the dances and music of the Philippines.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
All Saints Day 1	All Souls Day (Philippines) 2	Election Day 3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	Veterans Day Remembrance Day (Canada) 11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	Thanksgiving 26	27	United Nations Day 28
29	Andres Bonifacio Day (Philippines) 30	1	2	3		

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 1998

PASKO SA NAYON

PASKO SA NAYON

Christmas in the Philippines is the happiest time of the year. It is celebrated throughout the islands and is a great time for families to get together. Homes are cleaned and decorated and "paroles" (paper lanterns) appear on the front windows or porches of every home. There are parties everywhere and the sound of caroling is heard in the early morning hours.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	Immaculate Conception (Philippines) 8	9	International Human Rights Day 10	11	12
13	Hanukkah begins 14	15	Simbang Gabi begins (Philippines) 16	17	18	19
20	Winter begins 21	22	23	Misa de Gallo (Philippines) 24	Christmas 25	Boxing Day (Canada) 26
27	28	29	Jose P. Rizal Day (Philippines) 30	31		

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

December 1998

SAMAHAN Philippine Dance Company

The Samahan Philippine Dance Company was organized in July, 1974 under the direction of Lolita Dinoso Carter, Ph.D. Dr. Carter, a dance instructor at Grossmont College at that time, volunteered her services to organize a performing ensemble as a contribution to the growing Philippine Community of San Diego. Her knowledge of Philippine Dance and Music came naturally from her experiences growing up in the Philippines and being involved in all facets of Filipino life in a small town including activities of a large extended family, church and its numerous religious observances, school activities and programs and community celebrations specially town fiestas.. Formal education in Philippine Folk Dance at the University of the Philippines and classes with Francisca Reyes Aquino, eminent authority on Philippine Folk Dance provided Carter with a solid background in Philippine Folk Dance.

The Samahan Philippine Dance Company started out as part of the Youth Program of the Council of Pilipino-American Organizations of San Diego County. The purpose of the program was to provide Filipino youth opportunity to gain knowledge and appreciation of their cultural heritage. The name Samahan (meaning working together) was selected by the participants who were mostly students from area junior and senior high schools and San Diego State University. The educational and recreational program soon became an amateur performing group beseiged with requests for performances from various organizations, institutions and individuals.

In 1975, Ruby Pearl Chiong joined the Dance Company as a dancer, teacher and choreographer. Fresh from the Philippines, she brought with her a rich repertoire of dances reflecting her experiences with the Far Eastern University Dance Troupe and work with several dance companies in Manila. Her knowledge of dances from the mountain provinces of Northern Luzon and the Southern Philippines further enriched the Company's repertoire.

In 1978, Samahan obtained status as a non-profit, public benefit corporation. Soon after, it obtained its first grant from the National Endowment for the Arts which was matched by Tawfiq and Rachel Khoury of Pacific Scene, Inc. In 1979, the Dance Company was invited to perform in the inauguration of the East County Performing Arts Center. The performance initiated annual performances in that theater which lasted for 7 years.

The musical components of Samahan were formed in 1980 with the assistance of Bayani Mendoza De Leon, well known Filipino ethnomusicologist and composer. Under his expert tutelage, Samahan's Rondalla, Gangsa and Kulintang musical ensembles were formed. A grant from Parker Foundation enabled the Company to obtain musical instruments from the Philippines.

Danongan Sibay Kalanduyan, master artist/teacher of Kulintang Music became a guest teacher and artist with the Company from 1989-1991 and 1994-97. Born in Datu Piang, Cotabato, he learned his music from early childhood playing with members of his family, relatives and townmates. He introduced Samahan to the authentic music of the Maguindanao people as well as the music of the Maranao people. Together with the late Musiban Guiabar, a talented Maranao singer, he performed with Samahan at Sherwood Auditorium. In 1995, Kalanduyan was honored as a recipient of the prestigious National Heritage Fellowship Award by the National Endowment for the Arts. He continues to work with Samahan as a guest teacher.

In 1991, George Ragaza joined Samahan as artistic director sharing responsibilities with Ruby Chiong. Under his leadership, Samahan performed at the Poway Center for the Performing Arts for four consecutive years. His collection of authentic and well designed costumes and exquisite accessories greatly enhanced the professional quality of Samahan's performances. He premiered several new dances including "Kaamulan" - A Manobo Rite of sharing in 1993. In 1994, he presented an outstanding Gala at the Poway Center for the Performing Arts which gained him very good reviews by Anne Marie Welsh of the San Diego Union Tribune and Aurora Cudal of the Filipino Press. He also started Samahan's active association with Young Audiences of San Diego.

In 1979, Samahan initiated the Philippine Folk Festival which was held at the Scottish Rite Memorial Center, Mission Valley, San Diego. The Festival which lasted for six years was a showcase of Philippine performing arts in Southern California. The Festival was revived and moved to a central location in Balboa Park in 1996 The Santacruzan was a special feature of the 1997 Festival which was held May 3 and 4 in the same location. A growing number and variety of guest performing artists makes the Samahan Philippine Cultural Arts Festival an outstanding showcase of Philippine Cultural Arts and a very important Philippine Community Event.

In addition to its busy performance schedule, Samahan has a strong educational and outreach program. It provides free workshops and performances in many area schools and is specially involved in multi-cultural programs. It has conducted two successful Neighborhood Arts Programs in two different neighborhoods in San Diego which are geared to youths at-risk and funded in part by the City of San Diego under a program administered by the Commission for Arts and Culture. Samahan also provides performances for seniors, festivals and disadvantaged groups. Its theater performances include a Gala Performance, a Christmas Program and a program of original dances based on folk tales and legends of the Southern Philippine Islands. It has performed in many theaters of San Diego County including the City College Theater, Sherwood Auditorium, the Educational Cultural Complex Theater, Mayan Hall, East County Performing Arts Center, Mandeville Auditorium and Lyceum Theater. Samahan recently performed at the Seattle Opera House as a featured performer in the Northwest Folklife Festival. The Samahan Philippine Dance Company takes great pride in its contribution to the preservation, development and presentation of the traditional performing arts of the Philippines and its respected position as a member of performing arts of San Diego.

Copy/Text/Photographic Design: Lolita D. Carter

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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SAMAHAN PHILIPPINE DANCE COMPANY
Calendar 1998 - Pictorial Participants
Ruby Chiong, Kelly de Guzman, Michelle Aguilar Camaya, Jd Lynn Chiong, Nichi Ellorin, Michael Brizuela, Catherine Abalos, Raynard Abalos, Katherine Muñoz, Reina Chiong, Abigayle Juan, Jelynn Rodriguez, Angeline Fasano, Melanie Alabanza, Jordan Fasano, Floro Alabanza, Jr., Francis Puzon, Elly Aguilar, Juanita Caccam, Bernard Ellorin, Chris Feraro.

Santacruzan & Students
Jacqueline Pablo, Larihvie & Hillary Dela Cruz, Cherie Hendrickson, Eleonor Navales Liziel & Maryanne Gepila, Leah Feraro, Jennifer Dayrit, Sheryl & Shawn Samson,Travis Zabala

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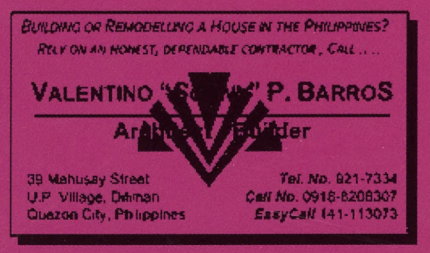
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ON THE COVER

SINGKIL

According to an old epic tale, there once was a certain Princess Gandingan walking through the woods. The D'watas or spirits of the forest decided to play a joke on her by causing the earth to shake. The princess guided by a beautiful butterfly (bejewelled fans called apir) gracefully tiptoed through the crashing trees and rolling rocks. A prince traveling through the land arrived at the scene and decided to rescue the princess and court her. The clapping of crossed bamboo poles represents the shaking of trees and rolling rocks.

SAMAHAN
PHILIPPINE DANCE COMPANY